

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-07 ISO-00 AID-01 SS-07 NSC-06 /025 W
-----057733 200316Z /21

R 191259Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6522
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 0719

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP
SUBJ: CODEL WILLIAMS/STEVENS

1. SUMMARY. CODE WILLIAMS/STEVENS HAD USEFUL 36 HOUR VISIT TO TEHRAN JAN 9-11. SENATORS HAD DINNER WITH THE SHAH JAN 10, WHICH WAS CLEARLY HIGHLIGHT OF THEIR ALL TO BRIEF VISIT. CODEL ALSO HAD STIMULATING EXCHANGE WITH PRIMIN AMOUZEGAR, AND USEFUL EXPOSURE TO IRAN'S MILITARY MODERNIZATION EFFORT AT LUNCH WITH GENERAL TOUFANIAN. END SUMMARY.

2. CODEL HAD UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION WITH SHAH AT LONG DINNER JAN 10 IMMEDIATELY AFTER SHAH'S RETURN FROM MEETING SADAT IN ASWAN AND BRIEF STOPOVER IN PRIYADH FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH KING KHALIDHAND SAUDI OFFICIALS. FOCUS OF DINNER DISCUSSION, THEREFORE, CENTERED ON MIDDLE EAST QUESTIONS AND PROSPECTS FOR PEACE. OTHER KEY DISCUSSION TOPICS RELATED TO HORN OF AFRICA AND GENERAL SECURITY SITUATION IN THIS REGION.

3. SHAH MADE CLEAR TO SENATORS HIS VIEW THAT SADAT HAS GONE EXTRA MILE, AND THAT ISRAELIS HAVE NOT--AT LEAST AS YET--MADE ADEQUATE RESPONSE. DISCUSSION WAS FRANK AND CANDID, AND SHAH WAS IN GOOD
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FORM. HE MADE CLEAR TO SENATORS HIS VIEW THAT IT UP TO ISRAEL TO ENSURE THAT PROCESS STARTED BY SADAT INITIATIVE BE CARRIED THROUGH TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION. SHAH UNDERSTANDS FULL WELL THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT; HOWEVER, IT IMPERATIVE FOR ISRAEL TO RESPOND TO SADAT MOVE FULLY ENOUGH TO ENSURE THAT FRAGILE FLOWER BROUGHT TO LIFE BY SADAT DOES NOT WITHER AND DIE.

4. TOW HOUR SESSION WITH PRIMIN AMOUZEGAR BEGAN WITH PRIMIN PROVIDING CODEL TOUR D' HORIZON ON IRAN DEVELOPMENT PLANS, PROGRESS AND ADMITTEDLY GREATER DIFFICULTIES TO BE OVERCOME IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS. PRIMIN ALSO, IN RESPONSE TO QUERY, GAVE ADDITIONAL TOUR D' HORIZON COVERING IRAN'S SECURITY SITUATION VIZ-A-VIZ

EACH OF HER NEIGHBORS, AS WELL AS GENERAL SITUATION IN THE REGION. THERE WAS ALSO FRANK, CANDID EXCHANGE ON ENERGY GENERALLY, OIL IN PARTICULAR. TARIFFS AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER WERE ALSO ADDRESSED. IT SEEMS CLEAR TO US THAT PRIMIN AND THE SENATORS GAINED A GREATER APPRECIATION OF ALL THESE QUESTIONS. SEN RIBICOFF SUMMED IT UP WELL, WE BELIEVE, BY EMPHASIZING THAT NO ONE HAS A MONOPOLY ON INTELLIGENCE, AND IT IS USEFUL TO HAVE IRANIANS AND AMERICANS DISCUSS QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WITH TOTAL CANDOR SO THAT WE CAN ALL LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER.

5. GEN TOUFANIAN DESCRIBED IRANIAN PROCUREMENT PROCESS, AMB OUTLINED GENERAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE SITUATION RELATING TO IRAN, AND CARMISH/MAAG REVIEWED IN-COUNTRY US MANAGEMENT OF THE IRANIAN PROGRAM.

6. SENATORS ALSO HAD BREAKFAST MEETING WITH IRAN/AMERICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR. DISCUSSION WAS ANIMATED, AND INTRODUCTION TO IT BY CHAMBER PRES LEHFELDT REQUESTED THAT THE TAX ISSUE NOT BE RAISED IN ORDER TO PERMIT MORE GENERAL EXCHANGE.
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SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEHRAN00719
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780030-0110
Format: TEL
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780143/aaaabkdj.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 572ec7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3744997
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL WILLIAMS/STEVENS
TAGS: OREP, IR, (WILLIAMS, HARRISON A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/572ec7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014